PERSONAL MEMOIRS OF U. S. GRANT. In two volumes. Vol. 1. Svo., pp. 584. Charles L.

[The style of General Grant's book has been so well exhibited in the specimens of his writing contributed to The Century magazine that comment upon it seems superfluous. Indeed when we have said that it is a model of simplicity and directness we have said almost everything. We hardly know of any book more straightforward and sensible, Nothing is added to it for rheterical effect; not a phrase is needlessly embellished. The illustrious author, however, possessed a literary ability for which the world never gave him credit, and which he himself probably did not suspect. He had a remarkable power of clear, terse and effective statement: so that his narrative of complicated and world-stirring events moves on with an ease for which famous historians often labor in vain. For this reason, among others, he is always intensely interesting. There is not a dult page in the

The modesty of the "Memoirs" is quite as striking as their unartificial symmetry. General Grant never! boasts, and never enlarges unduly even upon his most distinguished achievements He has not left us a military history, although his book will be an essential authority for all future histories of the war; he has only described his personal experiences; and that he has succeeded in doing this without vaunting his services is the best possible proof of the strength and simplicity of his character. His disposition in writing about others is evidently kind and generous, but he does not spare censure in certain cases. He is always independent and courageous.

He throws no light upon the disputed question of his name, but he gives a particular account of his ancestry. His family, he says, "is American, and has been for generations, in all its branches, lirect and collateral." Matthew Grant, from whom the General was the eighth in descent, emigrated to Dorchester, Massachusetts, in 1630, and m 1635 removed to what is now Windsor, Connecticut. He was surveyor of the colony for more than forty years. Noah Grant, the grandfather of Ulysses, served in the patriot army throughout the Revolutionary War, from Bunker Hill to Yorktown, and in 1799 settled in Ohio, where the town of Deerheld now stands. His son Jease, the father of Ulysses. learned the trade of a tanner in Ohio, " and worked for, and lived in the family of, a Mr. Brown, the father of John Brown- whose body lies mouldering in the ground while his soul goes marching on," -an interesting fact which seems to have been unknown to Brown's latest biographer.

Jesse Grant was in comfortable einenmstances, and Ulysses enjoyed all the seasty advantages of schooling which the country afforded, but he was not a studious boy, and, moreover, like every body else in those early days, he had to work.

not a studious boy, and, moreover, fike every body clse in those early days, he had to work.

While my father carried on the manufacture of leather and carried on the trade himself, he owned and tilled considerable land. I detested the trade, preferring almost any other lador; but I was fond of agriculture and of all employment in which horses were used. We had, among other lands, fifty acres of forest within a mile of the village. In the fall, of the year choppers were employed to cut enough wood to last a twelvemonth, when I was seven or eight years of age I began having all the wood used in the house and sloops. I could not leave and the chorpers would load and some one at the house unload. When about eleven years old, I was strong enough to hold a plough. From that age until seventeen I did all the work done with horses, such as breaking up the land, furrowing, ploughing form and potatoes, bringing in the crops when harvested, having all the wood, besides tending two or three horses, a caw or two, and sawing wood for stoy's, etc., while still attending school. For this I was compensated by the fact that there was never any scolding or punishing by my parents; no objection to rational enformments, such as fishing, going to the creek a mile away to swim in summer, taking a horse and visiting toy grandparents in the adjoining county, fifteen miles off, skating on the see in winter, or taking a lorse and sieigh when there was show on the ground.

He was put into the army without any wish of his own, very much as he might have been put to

He was put into the army without any wish of his own, very much as he might have been put to going to receive the appointment." "What appointment?" "To West Point; I have applied for it." "But I won't go, I said. He said he thought I would, and I thought so too if he did," So he entered the military academy without taste for a military life, and passed through his course the Academy never was high except in mathematics. When he was graduated in 1843, and assigned to the 4th Infantry, he gave no promise of distinction, and exhibited moreover an inherited consumptive tendency, which was not overcome until he passed through the heroic treatment of open-air campaigning during the Mexican War. His regiment was one of the first ordered to the frontier wlen hostilities were impending, and he was attached to the gallant little army of General Taylor which won the earliest laurels of the war. Most of the officers were indifferent to the rights of our quarrel with Mexico; but no one could ever say that Grant had not a mind of his own. He fully understood the infamous purpose which lay back of the annex ation of Texas, and the dishonorable means by which the plot was carried out. "For myself, I was bitterly opposed to the measure, and to this day regard the war which resulted as one of the most unjust ever wager by a stronger against a weaker nation." It is unnecessary to say, however, that he did his duty as a soldier with exemplary fidelity and zeal.

He describes the scandalous behavior of the Administration toward both Taylor and Scott with refreshing vigor, and his explanation of the miserable political intrigues accompanying the war is a model of brevity and clearness, owing not a little of its effect to the measured simplicity of its statements. His sketches of the two chiefs-Taylor and Scott-under whom he served, and of Worth, who was his immediate commander, are extremely interesting. He had a high opinion of both Taylor and Scott, but it is evident that Taylor, whose character and temperament were something like his own, drew his sympathies while Scott only compelled his admiration. Both, he says, were pleasant to serve under; Taylor was pleasant to serve with. He does justice to the soldierly qualities of Worth, but that rather fassy hero did not attract him, and now and then seemed to him

I found General Worth a different man from any I had before served directly under. He was nervous, impatient and restless on the march, or when important or responsible duty confronted him. There was not the least reason for haste on the march for it was known that it would take weeks to assemble shipping enough at the point of our embarkation to carry the army, but teneral Worth movel his division with a rapidity that would have been commendable had be been going to the relief of a beleaguered garrison. The length of the marches was regulated by the distances between places affording a supply of water for the troops, and these distances were sometimes loag and sometimes short. General Worth, on one occasion at least, after having made the full distance for the day, and after the troops were in camp and preparing their food, ordered tents struck and made the march that night which had been intended for the next day. Some commanders can move troops so as to get the maximum distance out of them without latigue, while others can wear them out in a few days without accomplishing so much. General Worth belonged to this latter class. He enjoyed, however, a fine reputation for his fighting qualities, and thus attached his effects. I found General Worth a different man from any much. General Worth belonged to this much. General Worth belonged to this fighting qualities, and thus attached his editors

He gives great praise to the generalship of the American commanders, although he believes that if Scott had attacked the City of Mexico from the north he might have taken it with less difficulty than he actually encountered; and he holds, moreover, that the bloody battles of Moline del Rey and Chapuitepee were wholly unnecessary, much better material than the regulars, and being well officered they soon acquired the necessary drill. wretched quality-incomparably worse than anything we should find if we fought Mexico now.

worse fed and seldom paid. He was turned adrift when no longer wanted. The officers of the lower grade were but little superior to the men." Neverheless the Mexicans often made as gallant a stand as any soldiers ever made. "The trouble seemed to be the lack of experience among the officers, which led them after a certain time to simply quit, without being particularly whipped, but because they had fought enough."

Grant speaks of his personal experiences in Mexico with characteristic modesty, but to those who can read between the lines it is plain enough that the young second lieutenant, hating the war and not particularly enamored with his profession was yet by no means content with a perfunctory performance of strict duty. Here is an incident of

t was with the earliest of the troops to enter the Molino del Rey:

I was with the earliest of the troops to enter the Mills. In passing through to the north side, looking toward Chapultepec, I happened to notice that there were armed Mexicans still on top of the building, only a few feet from many of our men. Not seeing any stairway or ladder reachine to the top of the building, I took a few soldiers and had a cart that happened to be standing near brought up, and placing the shafts against the walls, and chocking the wheels so that the cart could not back, used the shafts as a sort of ladder extending to within three or four feet of the top. By this I climbed to the roof of the building, followed by a few men, but found a private soldier had preceded me by some other way. There were still quite a number of Mexicans on the roof, among them a majer and five or six officers of lower grades, who had not succeeded in getting away before our troops occupied the building. They still had their arms, while the soldier before mentioned was walking as senty, gnarding the prisoners he had sucrounded, all by himself. I halted the sentanel, received the swords from the commissioned officers, and proceeded, with the assistance of the soldiers hem granust the edge of the wall, and there we had not approached, with the assistance of the soldiers hem granust the edge of the wall, and there we there to the ground below. by striking them against the edge of the wall, and throw them to the ground below. During the final operations, after the capture of

Chapultepec, Grant distinguished himself by an exploit which was several times applauded in the

capieth which was several that appears official reports:

Later in the day in reconnoitering I found a church off to the south of the road, which looked to me as if the belfry would command the ground back of the garita San Cosme I got an officer of the voltigears, with a mountain howtizer and men to work it, to go with me. The road being in possession of the enemy, we had to take the field to the south to reach the church. This took us over several ditches breast deep in water and grown up with water plants. These ditches, however, were not over eight or ten feet in width. The howitzer was taken to pieces and carried by the men to its destination. When I knocked for admission a priest came to the door, who while extremely polite, declined to admit us. With the little Spanish then at my concannd, I explained to him that he might save property by opening the door, and he certainly would save himself from becoming a prisoner, for a time at least, and besides, I intended to go in whether he consented or not. He legan to see his duty in the same light that I did, and spened the door, though he did not look as though it gave him special pleasure to do so. The gain was carried to the belfry and put and spened the door, though he did not look as though it gave him special pleasure to do so. The gan was carried to the belify and nut together. We were not more than two or three hundred yards from San Cosme. The shots from our little gun dropped in upon the enemy and created great confusion. Why they did not send out a small party and capture us. I do not know. We had no miantry or other defences besides our

own gin The effect of this gun upon the troops about the gate of the city was so marked that General Worth saw it from his position. He was so pleased that he sent a staff officer, Lieutemant Pemberton—later Lieutemant-General commanding the defences at Vicksburg—to bring me to him. He expressed his gratification at the services the howitzer in the church scoole was doing, saying that every shot was effective, and ordered a captain of voitigeurs to report to me with another howitzer to be placed along with the ope already rendering so much to report to me with another howitzer to be placed along with the one already rendering so much service. I could not tell the General there was not room enough in the steeple for another gan, because he probably would he we looked upon such a statement as a contradiction from a second lieutenant. I took the captain with me, but did not use his gan.

When Grant resigned from the army in 1854 he

held the rank of captam and was stationed at Humbolt Bay, in Northern California. He was already. Neither is there much more to be said about the circumstances of his entering the war for the Union in 1861. He was an ardent Unioniat from the first, although his political ties were rather loose. He had been a Whig, and a zealous partisan of Clay. At the beginning of the Know-Nothing movement he had joined a lodge of which he attended only one meeting. In 1856 he voted he says that he should have felt bound to vote for Donglas, and he was glad to be relieved of the obliwithout relish for the career into which he had been thrust, and with no other ambition than to gation because he answ that the real contest was e from it as soon as possible into a professor- between Lincoln and Breckinridge, and of these ing that his prompt application to the War Department for a commission in the volunteer service was faid aside and forgotten. He was an inconspicuous citizen of a small Illinois town, and he had no recommendations. When General Pope offered to procure letters for him he "declined to receive indersement for permission to fight for his country. Governor Yates made him useful in mustering in troops, and discovered in his manner of discharging that humble duty so many evidences of capacity that he soon afterward appointed him, unsolicited to the colonelcy of the 21st Illinois Volunteers, a regiment composed of good stuff but undisciplined and demoralized. Colonel Grant soon brought them into a condition of efficiency. They were still in the State service and it lay with them to decide whether they would enter that of the United States for "three years or the war." McClernand and Logan, then Democratic members of Congress, cans to Springfield where the regiment was encamped and asked permission to address the men. Colonel Grant was doubtful about Logan, whom he only knew as the representative of a densely benighted Copperhead district, but being sure of McClernand's loyalty he consented:

McClernand spoke first; and Logan followed in a speech which he has hardly equalled since for force and eloquence. It breathed a loyalty and devotion to the Union which inspired my men to such a point that they would have volunteered to remain in the army as long as an enemy of continued to bear arms against it entered the United States service almost to a man

One of his early experiences in command is thus ngeniously narrated:

Up to this time my regiment had not been carried in the school of the soldier beyond the company drill, except that it had received some training on the march from Springfield to the lillinois River. There was now a good opportunity some training on the march from Springfield to the Illinois River. There was now a good opportunity of exercising it in the battahou drill. While I was at West Point the tactics used in the army had been Scott's and the musket the flint-lock. I had never looked at a copy of tactics from the time of my graduation. My standing in that branch of studies had been near the foot of the class. In the Mexican war in the summer of 1846, I had been appointed regimental quartermaster and commissary and had not been at a battalion drill since. The arms had been changed since then and Hardee's tactics had been adopted. I got a copy of tactics and studied one isson, intending to confine the exercise of the first day to the commands I had thus learned. By pursuing this course from day to day I thought I won do soon get through the voiume.

We were encamped just outside of town on the common, among scattering suburban houses with enclosed gardens, and when I got my regiment in line and rode to the front I soon saw that if I attempted to follow the lesson I had studied I wond have to clear away some of the houses and garden fences to make room. I perceived at once, however, that Hardee's theties—a mere translation from the Prench with Hardee's name attached—was nothing near than commens sent and the purpose of the arms.

make room. I perceived at once, however, that Hardee's tactics—a mere translation from the French with Hardee's name attached—was nothing more than common sense and the progress of the age applied to Scott's system. The commands were abstracted and the movement expedited. Under the old tactics almost every change in the order of mirch was preceded by a "halt," then came the change, and then the "forward march," With the new factics all these changes could be made while in motion. I found no trouble in giving commands that would take my regiment where I wanted it to in motion. I found no trouble in giving commands that would take my regiment where I wanted it to go and carry it around all obstacles. I do not believe that officers of the regiment ever discovered that I had never studied the tactics that I used.

The first intimation he had of his promotion to the rank of Brigadier-General was seeing in a newspaper that the Illinois delegation in Congress. in consequence of an invitation from the President. since both positions could have been turned, had ananimously recommended him as first on a Taylor and Scott had spendid armies, -small, but list of seven; at which he was "very much surbrave and west disciplined. The volunteers were of prised." He was placed in command of the post of Caire, and from there he led the first expedition which made his name familiar to the public, The Mexican forces, on the other hand, were of namely, the attack upon the Rebel camp at Belmont, opposite Columbus. This affair accomplished what Grant expected. It greatly inspirited Mexican private soldier was nicked up from | the troops, whose morale needed some such stimu the lower class of the inhabitants when wanted; lant, it inflicted more damage than it cost, and-A consent was not asked; he was poorly clothed, | most important of all-it prevented the Rebels from

detaching troops against Oglesby, whom Grant had sent to the St. Francis River. Nevertheless the battle of Belmont came near proving a disaster after the Rebel camp had been actually won:

sent to the St. Francis River. Revertineless and battle of Belmont came near proving a disaster after the Rebel camp had been actually won:

At this point they became demoralized from their victory and fatled to reap its full reward. The enemy had been followed so closely that when he reached the clear ground upon which his camp had been pitched, he beat a hasty retreat over the river bank, which protected him from our shots and from view. This precipitate retreat at the last moment enabled the National forces to pick their way without hindrance through the abatis—the only artificial defence the enemy had. The mement the camp was reached our men laid down their arms and commenced runninging the tents to pick up trophies. Some of the higher officers were little better than the privates. They galloped about from one cluster of men to another, and at every halt delivered a short eulogy upon the Union cause and the achievements of the command. All this time the troops we had been engaged with for four hours, lay crouched under cover of the river bank, ready to come up and surrender if summoned to do so; but finding that they were not pursued they worked their way up the river and came up on the bank between us and our transports. I saw at the same time time two steamers coming from the Columbus side toward the west shore, above us, black—or gray—with soldiers from boiler deek to roof. Some of my men were engaged in firing from captured guns at empty steamers down the river, out of range, cheering at every shot. I tried to get them to turn their guns upon the loaded steamers above and not so far away. My efforts were in vain. At last I directed my staff officers to set fire to the camps. This drew the fire of the enemy's guns located on the heights of Columbus. They had abstained from firing before, probably because they were afraid of hitting their own men: or they may have supposed, until the camp was on fire, that it was still in the possession of their friends. About this time, too, the men we had driven over th But when I announced that we had cut our way in and could cut our way out just as well, it seemed a new revelation to officers and soldiers. They formed into rapidly and we started back to our boats, with the men deployed as skirmishers as they had been on entering the camp. The enemy was soon encountered, but his resistance this time was facilic. Again the Confederates sought shelter under the river banks. We could not stop, however, to pick them up, because the troops we had seen crossing the river had debarked by this time and were nearer our transports than we were. It would be prudent to get them behind us; but we were not again molested on our way to the boats.

While at Care Grant had many opportunities of

While at Cairo Grant had many opportunities of meeting Confederate officers under a flag of truce. advantage which the South had over the North at the beginning of the rebellion, and he makes some tion which harmonice perfectly with his strong Halleck was intriguing against the successing The South had not a majority of the educated wisdom or his plan of operations:

dlen. Flag-Officer Foote communded the little fleet of

Fart Henry fell even more promptly than Grant had anticipated, and haste was now of the utmost consequence in attacking Fort Donelson before the enemy could reinforce it. Halleck neither approved nor disapproved. He left Grant to himelt, sending him, however, a characteristic order to "fortify Fort Henry strongly, particularly on the land side," and forwarding with the order a lot

On the 7th, the day after the fair of Fort Henry, On the 7th, the day after the fait of Fort Henry, I took my staff and the cavalry—a part of one regiment—and made a recommonance to within about a mile of the outer one of works at Doneison. I had known General Fillow in Mexico, and judged that with any force, no matter how small, I could march up to within guishot of any introchiments he was given to hold. I said this to the officers of my staff at the time. I knew that Floyd was in command, but he was no sodier, and I judged that he would yield to Pillow's pretensions. I met, as I expected, no opposition in making the reconnoisance.

After the naval attack upon Donelson, in which

the gunboats were disabled and Flag-officer Foutseverely wounded, Grant was in conference with made their desperate attempt to cut their way out. They had failen upon McClernand's division and gained a temporary success over it, but they had been checked and driven back to their intrenchments, before General Grant reached the field,

I saw the men standing in knots talking in the I saw the men standing in knots talking in the most excited mainter. No officer seemed to be giving any directions. The soldiers had their musikets but ne amazumition, while there were tons of it close at hand. I heard some of the men say that the enemy had come out with knapsacks, and haversacks filled with rations. They seemed to think this indicated a determination on his part to stay out and light just as long as the provisions held out. I turned to Colonel J. U. Webster, of my staff, who was with me and said: "Some of our men are next to to Colonel J. U. Webster, of my staff, who was with me, and said: "Some of our men are pretty badly demoralized, but the enemy must be more so, for he has attempted to force his way out, but has fallen back; the one who attacks first now will be victorious and the enemy will have to be in a hurry if he gets shead of me." I determined to make the assavil at once on our left. It was clear to my mind that the e emy had started to murch out with his entire force, except a few pickets, and if our attack could be made on the left before the enemy could redustribute his forces along the line, we would find but little opposition except from the intervening abatis. I directed Colonel Webster to ride with me and call out to the men as we passed; "Fill your cartridge boxes, quick, and get into line; the enemy is trying to escape and he must not be permitted to do so." This acted like a charm. The men only wanted some one to give a charm. The men only wanted some one to give them a command. We rode rapidly to Smith's quarters, when I explained the situation to him and directed him to charge the enemy's works in his front with his whole division, saying at the same time that he would find nothing but a very thin line time that he would find nothing but a very thin line to contend with. The general was off in an incredibly short time, going in advance himself to keep his men from firing while they were working their way through the abatis intervening between them and the enemy. The outer line of rifle-pits was passed, and the night of the 15th General Smith, with much of his division, bivougeked within the lines of the enemy. There was now no doubt but that the Confederates must surrender or be captured the next day.

There seems from subsequent accounts to have been much consternation. particularly among the officers of high rank, in Dover during the might of the 15th. General Floyd, the commanding officer, who was a man of talent enough for any civil position, was no soldier and, possibly, did not possess the elements of one. He was further unfitted for command, for the reason that his conscience must have troubled him and made him afraid. As Secretary of War, he had taken a solemn oath to maintain the Constitution of the United States and uphold the same against all its enemies. He had betrayed that trust. As Secretary of War he was reported through the Northern press to have scattered the little army the country had so that the most of it could be picked up in detail when secession occurred. About a year before leaving the Cabinet he had removed arms from Northern to Southern arsenals. He continued in the Cabinet of President Buchauan until about the 1st of January, 1861, while he was working yigilantly for the establisament of a confederacy made out of United States territory. until about the 1st of January, 1861, while he was working vigilantly for the establishment of a confederacy made out of United States territory. Well may he have been afraid to fall into the hands of National troops. He would no doubt have been tried for misappropriating public property if not for treason, had he been captured. General Pillow, next in command, was conceited, and prided himself much on his services in the Mexican War. He telegraphed to General Johnston, at Nashville, after our men were within the rebel rifle pits, and almost on the eve of his making his escape, that the Southern troops had had great success all day. Johnston forwarded the dispatch to Richmond. While the authorities at the capital were reading it Floyd and Piliow were fugitives.

The mortification of making the surrender was

The mortification of making the surrender was thus thrust upon General Buckner, and it was to him that Grant addressed his famous "uncoudi tional surrender" dispatch. Buckner denounced the terms as " unchivalrous and ungenerous"; but that, perhaps, was meant as a rhetorical contribution to history, for he was amiable enough when Grant met him .

ide of their works. During the siege Sherman had been sent to the

mouth of the Cumberland to forward reinforcements and supplies. He was Grant's senior in rank, and there was no authority of law to assign a junior to command a senior of the same grade. But with long honored him, he offered to waive rank and serve under Grant if he could be of any use at the front, and every boat that went up the river took a Mexico. Seeing them now under such ellerent conditions led him to reflect upon the great generous and, encouraging note from him. Very advantage which the South had over the North at different was the behavior of Halleck. While the whole North was cheering the victory and applaudvery acute and novel remarks upon army organiza- ing Grant's promotion to a Major-Generalship,

officers of the army at the outbreak of the war, but they had as many as thirty or forty per cent, and as they had no standing treops these trained soldiers had to be distributed through the whole body of volunteers. It leavened the entire mass.

The North had a greater number of educated and trained soldiers, but the bulk of them were still in the army, and were retained, generally with their old commands and runs, mutities war had leaved many montas. In the Army of the Potomac there was what was known as the "Regular Brigade," in which, from the commanding officer down to the youngest second hentemant, were one was educated to his profession. So, ten.

Donelson was rewarded for his brilliant services by deprivation of his command and a threat of discrete more galling than any formal proceedings would probably have been. The cause of this respectable mediocrity which could not understand genius, a scientific reverence for old precedents After the battle of Shiloh Grant was set aside

again. This time it was impossible to disgrace him; but Halicek took the field in person, and, appointing Grant to the purely nominal position of secondn-command, left him without troops, without real authority and without occupation. Then began the absurd advance upon Cormth. This town was an occupied it immediately after the fall of Fort Donelson, when it could have been taken without battle. Failing then, it should have been taken immediately after Shiloh. There was no time when the enemy would not have left it if pushed. But Halleck must take it by rule, or not at all. One imagines him advancing cautiously and slowly, with a book in one hand, a tape measure and a pair of dividers in the other, intrenching every field, and keeping his lines mathematically exact at whatever cost. The entire march, says Grant. was a siege. When Grant pointed out a quicker way of getting ahead, he was contemptuously re buffed. Corinta was reached at last, for in time even Halleck must arrive somewhere, but there was no enemy to be seen, and the defences were armed with Quaker guns. Half the fruit of Donelson and Shiloh had been frittered away. "It is a question, whether the morale of the Confederate troops engaged at Corinth was not improved by the immunity with which they were permitted remove all public property and then withdraw themselves." On our side both officers and men were disheartened at the result of a movement which except for the tardy occupation of a place of strategic importance was entirely barren. As for General Grant, he was convinced by this time that the war must be long and bloody. He had no such expectation until he saw how the Confederacy was allowed to recuperate and renew its forces after the battle of Shiloh. If the enemy had been pushed

with me, and received word is reply: "This place will be your headquarters. You can judge for your-self." I left Memphis for my new field without de-lay, and reached Corinth on the 15th of the month. General Halleck remained until the 17th of July; but he was very uncommunicative and gave me no information as to what I had been called to Corinth

When General Halleck left to assume the duties of general-in-chief, I remained in command of the district of West Tennessee. Practically I became a department commander, because no one was assigned to that position over me and I made my reports direct to the general-in-chief; but I was not assigned to the position of department commander until the 25th of October.

When Corinth was occupied, Halleck had a mag nificent army of 120,000 men. Besides holding all the territory which had been acquired, he might have made a great campaign, in any direction required, with a movable force of not less than 80,000. He might have reached either Vicksburg or Atlanta without bloodshed, and avoided some of the most costly battles of the war. But he proceeded to break up his army and scatter it where it could do least good. When Grant took command at Corinth he found himself in an anxious and galling position, thrown upon the defensive in the midst of a hostile population, harassed by the rebel cavalry which he was too weak to disperse, and practically isolated from Memphis, a point in his command not less important than Corinth itself. But at Memphis, he adds significantly, he had Sherman. Halleck had constructed an enormous system of fortifications at Corinth which reflected great credit upon the skill of his engineers; only they were of no use because they were far too extensive for the depleted army which had to man them. Grant was obliged to construct other defences, suitable to the strength of his garrison. "The most anxious period of the war to me," he In the course of our conversation, which was very friendly, he said to me that if he had been in command I would not have got up to Donetson as easily as I did. I told him that if he had been in command I should not have tried in the way I did. I had invested their lines with a smaller force than they had to defend them, and at the same time had sent a brigade full 5,000 strong around by water. I had refied very much upon their command of their works.

Says, "was during the time the Army of the Tennessee was guarding the territory acquired by the fall of Corinth and Memphis, and before I was sufficiently reinforced to take the offensive," The new defences at Corinth proved of high value when that position was attacked soon afterward by Van Dorn. Rosecrans was in immediate command of the Union troops in this engagement and succeeded in repelling the attack, but Grant comsays, " was during the time the Army of the Tensucceeded in repelling the attack, but Grant comprains that he did not follow up the victory nor obey his specific orders for a pursuit. He was dissatisfied also with the conduct of Rosecrans at luka, and when that gallant but not always fortunate commander was appointed to succeed Buell in Middle Tennessee, Grant was unfeignedly

> thankful: I was delighted at the promotion of Genera I was delighted at the promotion of occurse I still believed that when independent of an immediate superior the qualities which I at that time, credited him with possessing, would show themselves. As a subordinate I found that I could not make him do as I wished, and had determined to relieve him from duty that very day. The repulse of Van Dorn at Corinth had not the

full consequences which might have been secured from it, but Grant recognized the importance of the victory; and very soon afterward, having obtained ome reinforcements, he suggested to Halleck a plan for a campaign against Vicksburg. The General-in-Chief appears to have kindly left-him without orders in this great movement, the whole scheme of which, from beginning to end, was Grant's own. The "Memorrs" cordially recognize the support which Mr. Lincoln and General Haileck steadily gave to the undertaking after it had been begun, and Halleck is particularly praised for his foresight in dispatching reinforcements before they were actually called for. Grant had hardly taken the field, however, before his plans were consider ably disturbed by an order from Washington dividing his command into four corps, and placing one of them under McClernand, who was specifically assigned to that part of the army operating down the Mississippi. Grant was well aware that McClernand was appointed for political reasons, and for the particular duty allotted to him he had already designated Sherman. His conviction of McClermand's untitness was amply sustained by the event: but perhaps no great evil resulted from The cover, princet in colors, is a verifable chef d'envre, both already designated Sherman. His conviction of it; the incapacity of the new leader was so of design and execution and the promptly made apparent that Sherman and

Admiral Porter united in a request to Grant to THE IDYLS OF THE MONTHS. A book of colored decome and take the command in person; which he

the department just after the battle of Belmont, was phenomenally obtuse. He seems to have conceived toward Grant from the start a district and dislike which nothing could ever overcome. Grant had early discerned the importance of the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers as the true lime of Federal operations; and in the course of a reconnaisance which he was instructed to make as a diversion in favor of Buell's campaism against buckner he satisfied himself of the feasibility of his plan. He asked permission to go to St. Louis and lay the scheme before Halleck personally.

The leave was granted, but not graciously, I had known General Halleck but very signify in the old army, not having met him either at West Pount of during the Mexican war. I was reserved.

treatment has never been clearly ascertained, more than enough to hold the railroad communications he was already defending, but as he meant to command, that he had been ordered by the War drive the enemy before him he perceived that the Flag-Officer Foote commanded the little fleet of general state in the neighborhood of Carro and though in another branch of the service, was subject to the command of General Halleck. He and I consuited freely upon inflicary matters and in agreed with me perfectly as to the feasibility of the campaign up the Fennessee. Notwithstanding the rebuil I had received from my immediate chief. I therefore, on the 28th of Jahuarry, renewed the suggestion by telegraph that "if permitted." I could take and hold for theory, on the Lemossee. "Military History of General Grant." he discovered that the perfectly in support of the proposition. On the 1st of February I received full instructions from Department in the presented to investigate certain ramors of time it had been universally regarded as an axiom in war that an layading force must maintain a safe the lad accordingly made a report in which Grant was entirely experiment. All this was true: but when General Badeau was consulting the files of the suggestion by telegraph that "if permitted." I could take and hold for Henry, on the Lemossee." Military History of General Grant." he discovered that the permitted to investigate was hone of the proposition. On the 1st of February I received full instructions from Department in the present of misconduct which had failed, through no fault of his, but owing to the feature of the exceedation started.

Each Halleck was not acting from the narrest motives in the matter he at least believed that he was. He them the proposition of the country, cut up by ravines and the command to the tent and to report the facts, and that the admitted in war that an layading force must maintain a safe in the bad accordingly made a report in which Grant the that the admitted is a law as true: but was tru the matter he at least believed that he was. He town from which the troops could operate by siege. did not approve Grant's movements after Donelson; The nature of the country, cut up by ravines and perhaps he did not understand them. He believed mavigable bayons, and flooded at this time by that C. P. Smith and some other generals were unprecedented rams, made it impossible to march Grant's superiors. But there could be no stronger overland in the face of the enemy. The strategical proof of his unitness for the place be held than these enormous misjudgments. Halleck was man position where the meaning of every incident of the move forward along the line of the railroad, repairing as the advance pushed on. But the North had of intrenching tools! Grant was already at value of every one of his subordinate generals become very much discouraged. The elections tof accurately measured. It was the old story of 1862 had gone against the war party. Voluntary enlistments had ceased. The draft had been resisted. Grant believed that a retreat away back to Memphis would be interpreted as a defeat, and would have the most pernicious effect. "There was nothing left to be done but to go forward to a decisive victory. This was in my mind from the moment I took command in person at Young's Point." This was what he told Sherman when that officer remonstrated against his plan, and urged the paramount importance of securing a base. Grant had taken the daring resolve of cutting loose from his base altogether, and foraging upon the hostile country. Sherman afterward accomplished his most famous exploit by the same expedient; but when Grant proposed it such a thing had never been heard of. The final scenes of the capture of Vicksburg were

lescribed in one of General Grant's recent papers in The Century. The story of the preliminary operations, however, is hardly less dramatic than the actual narrative of the surrender. The explanation of the difficulties encountered, the frank tatement of repeated failures, the many stirring episodes, the simple and apparently unconscious manifestation of tennelty, endurance and ingenuity, and the lucid display of strategical movements from the first crossing of the Mississippi to the capture of Jackson, an exploit by which he placed himself between two formidable enemies and neutralized them both, give these chapters a most absorbing interest. The campaign finally established Grant's fame as a great military genius, but like all the rest of the story, it is told with such absolute modesty that a careless reader might forget what the world thinks of it. Sherman called it one of the greatest campaigns in history. The last battle previous to the complete invest-

ment of Vicksburg was at the crossing of Black River Bridge. The troops were in position, about to attack, when an officer from the stall of General Banks presented nimself to Grant with a letter from General Halleck:

battle of Shiloh. If the enemy had been pushed then the history of the rebellion must have been short.

I Unable to bear the studied affronts of Halleck any longer, Grant obtained permission to remove his headquarters to Memphis; but he was soon recalled to Corinth, Halleck having been ordered to Washington to assume the duties of general-in-chief. Grant did not know the reason of his recall, and Halleck did not see fit to tell him.

I telegraphed asking if I was to take my staff of the disparsation of the reason of his recall, and that direction, saw Lawler in his shirt-sleaves icading a charge upon the enemy, I immediately

mounted my horse and rode in the direction of the charge, and saw no more of the officer who delive ered the dispatch; I think not even to this day.

The first dispatch which Grant received from the Government, after the news of the surrender of Vicksburg, was a complaint from Halleck about the disposition of the prisoners.

General Grant's action after the victory was characteristic. " Having cleaned up about Vicksburg." he says, " and captured or routed all regular Confederate forces for more than a hundred miles in all directions, I felt that the troops that had done so much should be allowed to do more before the enemy could recover from the blow he had received, and while important points might be captured without He urged an expedition against bloodshed." Mobile, which could then have been easily taken, and from Mobile operations could have been effectively directed against Bragg. Halleck, however, refused. The Vicksburg army was practically broken up; and once more the victor was thrown upon the defensive. Here the first volume ends, The book is so moderate in tone that the severity of some of its criticisms may not be at once appreciated. It is in fact the most damaging commentary upon the management of our military affairs at the West that has ever been published,-the most damaging not only on account of the source from which it comes, but from the precision with which its keen shafts are aimed. So far as we have noticed, the Secretary of War is never mentioned, and the references to the President are always cordial and respectful. General Halleck was the responsible mischief-maker.

General Grant's estimates of other commanders are never unkind. His attachment to Sherman shines forth repeatedly, and in his eagerness to ulustrate the high-mindedness of his comrade he is perpetually and unconsciously exhibiting his own, The relation between these two great generals is one of the finest things in military biography. Of his other subordinates at the West, Grant commends most highly Logan, Crocker and Ransom. Logan and Crocker were fit for independent commands:

commands:

General F. P. Blair joined me at Milliken's Bend, a full-fledged general, without having served in a lower grade. He commanded a division in the campaign. I had known Blair in Missouri, where I had voted against him in 1858, when he ran for Congress. I knew him as a frank, positive and generous man, true to his friends even to a fault, but always a leader. I dreaded his coming; I knew from experience that it was more difficult to command two generals destring to be leaders than it was to command one army officered intelligently and with subordination. It affords me the greatest pleasure to record now my agreeable disappointment in respect to his character. There was no man braver than he, nor was there any who obeyed all orders of his superior in rank with more unquestioning alacrity. He was one man as a soldier, another as a politician.

Admiral Porter receives several handsome

Admiral Porter receives several handsome tributes, and Grant's references to the Navy, with which he so often had to co-operate, are invariably flattering. He says little of the Confederate generals, except Floyd and Pillow, for whom he had a contempt, and Albert Sidney Johnston, whom he pronounces overrated. He thinks that Johnston was vacillating and uncertain, and that he was greatly to blame for leaving a post like Fort Donelson in the hands of generals like Floyd and

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